[Mr. K. George.]

of Rs. 3 per house owner to 63 house-owners, who were the poorest among those rendered homeless by the floods. Action is being taken for getting as many of the breaches to irrigation channels and tanks repaired by the P. W. D. as possible. Government have also issued instructions to the P. W. D. for the prompt execution of the necessary repairs to roads, irrigation tanks and *todus*.

(c) An extent of 1,089 acres and 87·25 cents of paddy lands has been rendered unfit for cultivation by being silted up with sand etc.

(*d*) The closing of the breaches of *todus* and tanks, removing sand and silt from the fields, and rendering them fit for cultivation is estimated by the local Tahsildar to cost about a sum of Rs. 34,102.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know the fate of the cultivators whose paddy lands have become completely useless?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): They cannot cultivate them until the silt is removed.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Government intend reducing the tax?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): No. They are arranging to have a remission as will be seen from the answer.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the remission be granted till the paddy fields become useful?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I cannot say that. Government are taking statistics of fields which have been damaged and where the crops have failed on account of the floods. Remission will be granted when the statements called for from the Tahsildars are received.

Export of Tea seeds.

36. *MR S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the exportation of tea seeds to foreign countries from Travancore is prohibited by Customs Notification?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Under Customs Notification R. O. C. No. 699/33/Devt., dated the 3rd June 1933, the export of tea seeds from Travancore is prohibited with effect from the 7th June 1933.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether there are tea estates that are specially intended for the collection of tea seeds?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know the nature of the Agastiar Tea Estate?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether, in the face of the above notification, the tea estate owners, whose estates are specially intended for the collection of tea seeds alone, will be rendered any help?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): If an application is made by the owners, the question will be considered.

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MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know what the reason is for prohibiting the export of tea seeds?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The notification corresponds to a similar notification in British India.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Am I to infer then that the Government of Travancore did not enquire into the matter as to why the British Government have prohibited the export of tea seeds?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The Travancore Government have followed British India.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): So, am I to understand then that there was no reason for the Government of Travancore to prohibit the export of tea seeds?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Government have not specially enquired into the reasons therefor.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know, was the matter enquired into in a general way at least?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): We have followed the Government of India.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Am I to infer then that simply because the Government of India prohibited, the Travancore Government did the same thing. Is that the only reason?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I have answered that question.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the Government of Travancore had any curiosity to understand the reasons which prompted the British Government in prohibiting the export of tea seeds?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: What is the meaning of the word 'curiosity'?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Desire for knowledge.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): We were satisfied with what the Government of India did.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): How is it?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Because the Government of India were satisfied, we were also satisfied. (*Laughter*).

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): I put the question just to elucidate further points. The Secretary is not giving proper answers.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: All that I can do is to allow or disallow a question. I cannot compel a member to answer in a particular way. You may put your question now.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know, what are the reasons that prompted the British Government to prohibit the export of tea seeds?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Sir, I rise to a point of order. May I know whether one member can repeat the same question which is disallowed?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The Government member gave an answer which according to the member is unsatisfactory. It is satisfactory to the Chair. No further question need be put on that point.

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MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the Government of Travancore are prepared to ascertain the reason that prompted the British Government to prohibit the export of tea seeds?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the Government does not think that the reasons which might have prompted the British Government to prohibit the export of tea seeds need not be always advantageous to our Government?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know whether there was any correspondence between the Government of India and the Travancore State regarding this subject?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): There was no correspondence.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know whether there was any intimation from the Government of India on this subject?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Correspondence means intimation. Therefore the question has been answered.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Correspondence is a comprehensive term and therefore my question whether any intimation has been received from the Government of India on the subject remains unanswered.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I disallow that question.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know whether the Government has considered the question whether the prohibition is in the interests of Travancore or adverse to its interests?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The Government have not specially considered the question.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandam-Rural*): May I know whether they have in any other manner considered the question, either in a special way or in a general way.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): In a general way.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know the result of that consideration?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): That is given in the answer.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): I wish to know from the member whether, in his opinion, this prohibition is in the interest of Travancore or adverse to it.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): That can be determined only after seeing the result of the notification.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Am I to understand then that the Government of Travancore are absolutely in the dark as to the results of these actions?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The result of the notification is being watched.

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MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*) : May I know whether it is obligatory on the part of the Travancore Government merely because the Government of India notified in the Gazette, the same should be applied to Travancore ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : That is a matter of opinion.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) : Will the member be pleased to say whether there is any rule which makes it obligatory for the Travancore Government to oblige or to follow the Government of India ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I disallow that question.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Sir, may I know whether—

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*) : I rise to a point of order. May I know whether one member can rise again for a supplementary question ?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Before I finished my set of questions, a brother member put his question. So it is not my fault.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : You have lost your right of asking a supplementary question to this question.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : May I know whether—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I wish to make an observation with regard to the nature of supplementary questions. They are intended to elucidate answers relating to facts and not generally with regard to opinions. On the other hand, it is expected that the answers given by the Government members are the answers of Government and that all available information which may be normally collected should be collected and answers based thereon. I believe, if both sides understand this, it will be to mutual advantage.

Floods in Nedumangad taluk.

***MR. S. J. NAIR** (*Nedumangad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they are aware that there were severe floods throughout Nedumangad taluk on the 7th, 8th, 17th and 21st of Kanni 1109 ;

(*b*) whether the floods have not completely damaged the paddy cultivation and caused severe loss to the people ; and

(*c*) whether the Minor Irrigation Department has attended to the improvement of flood-damaged areas in the taluk ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : (*a*) The rains on the 7th, 8th, 17th and 21st Kanni 1109 were heavier than usual, resulting in rise of water in the rivers and *todus*.

(*b*) Owing to the rise of water, a few field bunds breached and there was slight inundation of paddy fields, but no appreciable damage to cultivation or to the standing crops was caused thereby.

(*c*) Statements of irrigation tanks and channels to be repaired by the P. W. D. have been called for and the question of their improvements will be taken up in due course.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : In answer to part (*b*), may I know whether the Government is not aware of the serious damage caused to the paddy fields as a result of floods—

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